

tions occur except for new species and varieties. Where necessary, critical notes are included to clarify taxonomic problems. *Lupinus Mearnsii* C. P. Smith, *L. albifrons* var. *Brandegeei* C. P. Smith, *L. latifolius* var. *Wigginsii* C. P. Smith are described as new. The paper closes with a key to the species included. It is to be hoped that nothing will stand in the way of the completion of this very worth while series of papers. The printing is in photolithography. Copies may be had by making a contribution to the publishing fund. A minimum contribution of one dollar entitles the donor to five signatures.—HERBERT L. MASON.

Plants of the Lava Beds National Monument, California. By ELMER I. APPLGATE. The American Midland Naturalist. Volume XIX, Number 2. Pp. 334-368. March, 1938.

So little has been written of the western extension of the Great Basin flora into the Pacific Coast states, that this capable treatment of one such area is extremely valuable. The Lava Beds National Monument comprises about seventy-two square miles of northeastern Siskiyou County and adjacent Modoc County. The numerous cinder-cones, lava flows and deposits of pumice, which support a rather sparse vegetation, clearly mark it as a region of recent volcanic activity. The author lists ten species of trees, thirty three of shrubs, one hundred and fifty of herbs, and two of ferns, many of which are typical of the Great Basin, although some are evidently derived from the Sierra-Cascade and Klamath (Siskiyou) areas. A well written, popular account of the "life zone" concept, and terse keys to the families, genera and species should make the paper helpful to interested amateurs as well as to professional botanists.—LINCOLN CONSTANCE.

NOTES AND NEWS

BATTAREA PHALLOIDES (DICKS.) PERS. IN SANTA BARBARA. This stalked puffball, although widely distributed, has not heretofore been reported from Santa Barbara. It was observed in rocky soil near the seashore, January, 1938. Dimensions noted below exceed those usually given in descriptions of this species: stem hollow, woody, shining straw color, 25 cm. long, 2.5 to 3.5 cm. in diameter, tapering toward the cap; stem scales conspicuous, pendulous, 5 to 10 mm. wide, 10 to 25 mm. long; volva subterranean, 10 cm. in diameter with loose ragged edge; cap bell-shaped, 7 cm. in diameter, 5 cm. in depth, with smooth, white skin-like peridium which at maturity splits horizontally along the edge and is gradually pushed off; exposed mass of red-brown spores gradually disappearing, the stem standing for several months.—RUTH HARTWELL, Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California.